

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1 - 17 and 32 - 51.

Add the following claims: --

1 E3 52. An isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene coding for the  
2 amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID NO:2 or coding for an amino  
3 acid sequence expressed by an allele variation of the pyruvate  
4 carboxylase gene coding for the amino acid sequence given under SEQ  
5 ID NO:2 wherein the allele variation is a deletion, insertion, or  
6 substitution of a nucleotide in said isolated pyruvate carboxylase  
7 gene, said pyruvate carboxylase gene with the allele variation  
8 capable of expressing an amino acid sequence having a substantially  
9 identical or increased enzymatic activity as the enzymatic activity  
10 of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

1 53. An isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene with the  
2 nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 165 to 3587 according to SEQ ID  
3 NO:1 or with a corresponding nucleotide sequence formed by a  
4 deletion, insertion, or substitution of a nucleotide from the  
5 nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

1 54. The isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene defined in  
2 claim 53 with a preceding promoter of the nucleotide sequence from  
3 nucleotide 20 to 109 according to SEQ ID NO:1.

1 55. The isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene according to  
2 claim 54 with a preceding tac promoter.

1           56. The isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene according to  
2        claim 55 with a regulatory gene sequence associated with the tac  
3        promoter.

1           57. The isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene according to  
2        claim 53 associated with a regulatory gene sequence.

1           58. A nucleic acid comprising an isolated pyruvate  
2        carboxylase gene according to claim 53, preceded by a promoter and  
3        associated with a regulatory gene sequence.

1           59. A vector containing an isolated pyruvate carboxylase  
2        gene according to claim 53.

1           60. A transformed cell containing in replicatable form  
2        an isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene according to claim 53.

1           61. A transformed cell containing a vector according to  
2        claim 59.

1           62. A transformed cell according to claim 60 belonging  
2        to the genus *Corynebacterium*.

1           63. A transformed cell according to claim 60, in which  
2        an enzyme which participates in synthesis of a corresponding amino

3       acid or an enzyme which participates in export of a corresponding  
4       amino acid is deregulated.

1               64. An isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene coding for the  
2       amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID NO:2.

1               65. An isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene with the  
2       nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 165 to 3587 according to SEQ ID  
3       NO:1.

1               66. A method of microbially producing an amino acid of  
2       the aspartate or glutamate family which comprises the steps of:  
3               (a) genetically modifying an isolated pyruvate carboxyl-  
4       ase gene coding for the amino acid sequence given under SEQ ID NO:2  
5       or coding for an amino acid sequence expressed by an allele varia-  
6       tion of the pyruvate carboxylase gene coding for the amino acid  
7       sequence given under SEQ ID NO:2 wherein the allele variation is a  
8       deletion, insertion, or substitution of a nucleotide in said  
9       isolated pyruvate carboxylase gene, said pyruvate carboxylase gene  
10      with the allele variation capable of expressing an amino acid  
11      sequence having a substantially identical or increased enzymatic  
12      activity as the enzymatic activity of the amino acid sequence of  
13      SEQ ID NO:2 to obtain a modified pyruvate carboxylase gene with  
14      increased pyruvate carboxylase activity over the starting pyruvate  
15      carboxylase gene; and

16 (b) producing the amino acid of the aspartate or glutamate family by expressing the modified pyruvate carboxylase gene in  
17 an amino acid-producing microorganism.

1               67. The method of producing an amino acid of the aspar-  
2       tate or glutamate family defined in claim 66 wherein the isolated  
3       pyruvate carboxylase gene codes for the amino acid sequence given  
4       under SEQ ID NO:2.

1 68. A method of microbially producing an amino acid of  
2 the aspartate or glutamate family which comprises the steps of:

3 (a) genetically modifying an isolated pyruvate carboxyl-  
4 ase gene with the nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 165 to 3587  
5 according to SEQ ID NO:1 or with a corresponding nucleotide se-  
6 quence formed by a deletion, insertion, or substitution of a  
7 nucleotide from the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 to obtain a  
8 modified pyruvate carboxylase gene with increased pyruvate carbox-  
9 ylase activity over the starting pyruvate carboxylase gene; and

10 (b) producing the amino acid of the aspartate or glutamate family by expressing the modified pyruvate carboxylase gene in  
11 an amino acid-producing microorganism.

1                   69. The method of producing an amino acid of the aspar-  
2                   tate or glutamate family defined in claim 68 wherein the isolated  
3                   pyruvate carboxylase gene has the nucleotide sequence of  
4                   nucleotides 165 to 3587 according to SEQ ID NO:1--